

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the drawings originally filed with the drawings sheets submitted herewith. The only change to the originally filed drawings is the addition of the designation "Prior Art" to Figure 6, as required in the Office Action. An annotated sheet showing the changes in red is included.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-9 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 2 has been cancelled without prejudice. New drawing sheets are submitted herewith that reflect the changes required in the Office Action, without adding new matter. In particular, "prior art" has been added to Figure 6, as required in the Office Action. Claim 1 is the only independent claim.

The PTO/SB/08 form submitted with the original application papers has not been returned initialed. It is requested that that form be returned with the next Office Action.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,495,916 (Ohuchi et al.). Claims 3-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious from Ohuchi et al. in view of admitted prior art.

Claim 1, as amended, recites that the marking member includes at least one linear portion, and the external electrodes each have a circular shape (when viewed in a thickness direction of the semiconductor chip).

The aforementioned limitation is supported the by the description in the specification of the second embodiment, which refers to the circular shape of a post. The claimed invention includes at least one marking member including at least one linear portion formed together with plural circular shapes. As a result it is possible to recognize the inclination.

Ohuchi et al. provides cross-sectional views showings that marking members having circular shapes merely differ from other terminals as to shape. However, they do not include linear portions having visual distinctions corresponding to "circular-shaped" terminals and

thus make it very difficult to recognize the inclination even when the package is viewed along the thickness direction. In view of the above, amended independent claim 1 is believed to clearly distinguish over the cited prior art.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from amended independent claim 1 discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Dated: October 7, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG. 6 PRIOR ART

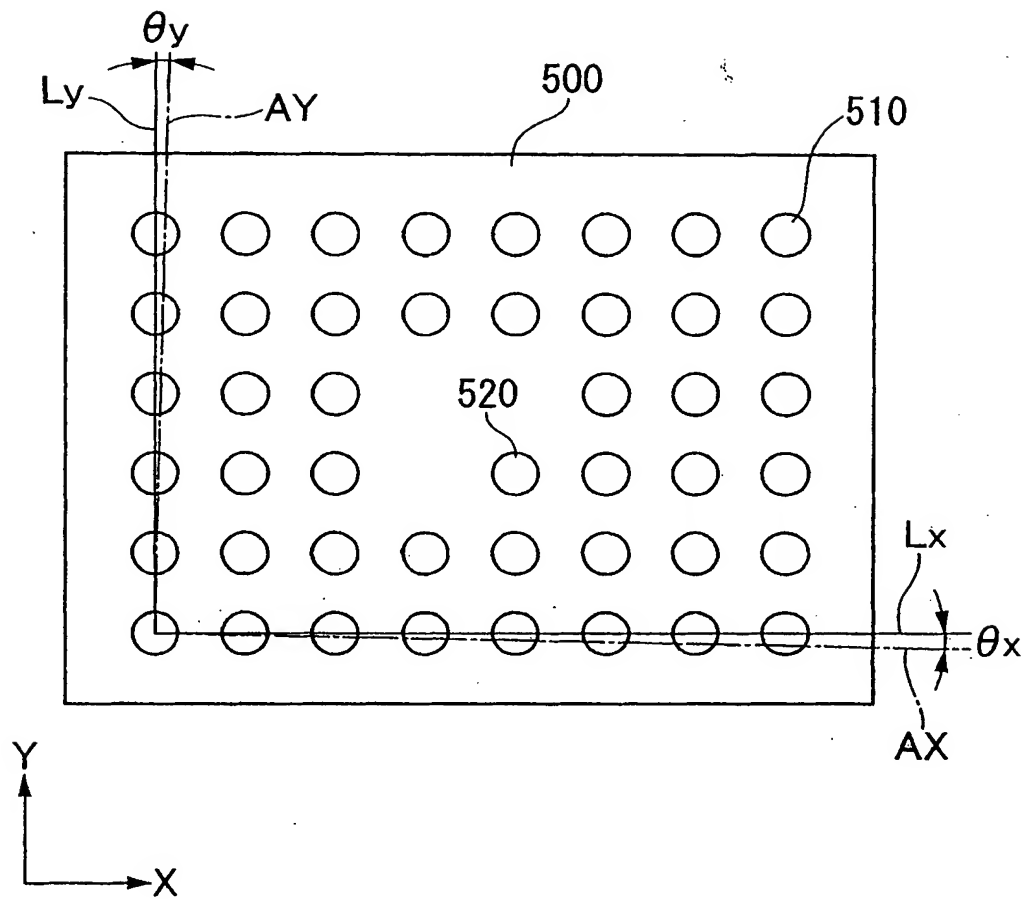


FIG. 7

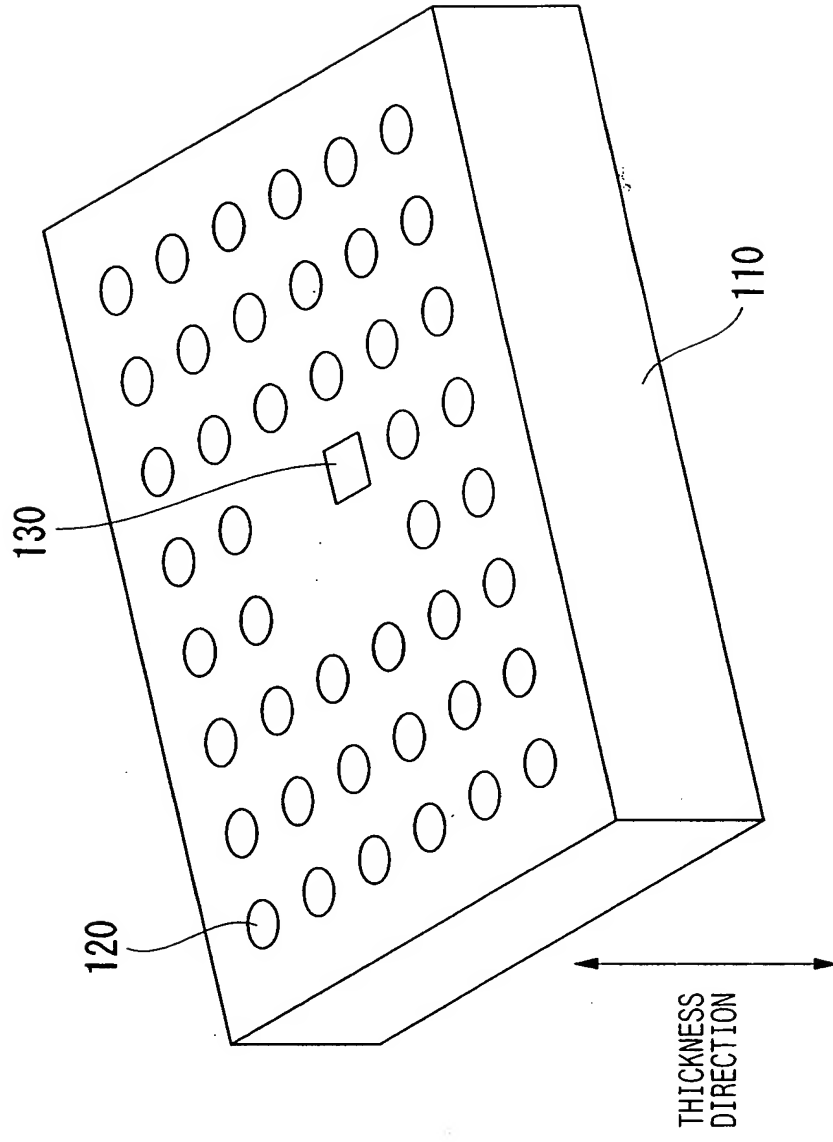


FIG. 8

